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BR P1003 US

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

For: Advancement of Pipe Elements

IN THE GROUND

Commissioner for Patents

PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## Supplemental Response to Non-Final Office Action

Sir:

Kindly enter this paper in further response to the Final Office Action dated, January 7, 2010. A response was earier filed on July 1, 2011 and discussed with the examiner. This paper presents amendments to the claims addressing issues raised at that interview.

This paper is presented in the following sections: (1) Introductory comments, (2) Amendments to the Claims and (3) Remarks.

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(1) Introductory Comments

This paper presents amended claims and arguments believed sufficient to overcome the

prior art rejection made in the outstanding rejection.

In view of applicant's presentation of the amended claims and the following remarks

that point out the patentable distinctions over the cited prior art, it is believed that all claims  $\frac{1}{2}$ 

should now be allowed.

Claims 3, 5, 6 and 8-18 are now present in this application.

New claims 16-18 are presented.

No claims are currently cancelled.